*To whom it may concern:*

*Below is a sample article for your bulletin to inform your parishioners about the mission appeal with the Augustinians. Please feel free to edit as needed. For any further questions, do not hesitate to contact Karon Basile at either karon@midwestaugustinians.org or at 773-595-4021.*

**The Augustinian Missions of Northern Peru**

The Church has called for missionaries, both religious and lay people, to evangelize the world ever since the days that Jesus called on his disciples to proclaim the Good Word. This missionary spirit is alive and beats in the heart of the Augustinian Order, a religious order serving the world’s missions for centuries.

Today, the Augustinians across the United States are uniting to support a very special mission in northern Peru, and have done so ever since St. John XXIII called them to do so over 50 years ago in 1963. The area we serve spans over 14,000 square miles and serves over 600,000 people daily living in conditions of extreme poverty. We serve from the desert area of the Pacific Coast through the rugged Andes Mountains.

Dependent on charitable gifts from the United States, we are able to ordain native clergy – nearly 60 in the entire country in Peru in Augustinian formation, staff impoverished parishes, teach in religious educational institutions, and promote social justice projects. We are also building “St. Augustine School,” which will one day be a thriving Augustinian high school. We continue to promote consecrated life this year, welcoming new friars into the Augustinian Order. We have also begun programs to prevent and treat diseases, provide clean water to the poorest of the poor in the desert, and promote women’s rights and equality.

Thank you for including the Augustinians in your parish’s missionary appeal this year. With your prayers and financial contributions, we can truly move one step closer toward reaching God’s Kingdom on Earth. God bless you, your Diocese, family, and parish!